

P. - En caso de llegar a la política dominicana, ¿se aliaría con Bosch?

R. - Si ello favorece los intereses de la RD, ¿porqué no?

P. - ¿Conoce el Programa de Gobierno de Dignidad Nacional?

R. - No lo conozco muy a fondo, pero me parece que habían propuesto algo así como ir a elecciones con una coalición y si triunfaran convocar nuevamente a elecciones en dos años. Yo considero que para una campaña política, hay que presentar un programa, no quitar a un gobierno no para ir a una transición y luego empezar nuevamente a elecciones con todo los problemas que ello acarrea. Creo, como dije anteriormente, que esa es una de las cosas que le ha pasado a la oposición del gobierno de Balaguer, es cohesión. Sin un gobierno de Dignidad Nacional con una coalición, fuerzas tan disímiles, llegara al poder, probablemente no se entenderán entre ellos y en muy poco tiempo empezarán las pugnas internas dentro de esa coalición."

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"P. - ¿Apoya la nacionalización de las empresas extranjeras en República Dominicana?

R. - La Gulf and Western no es una empresa extranjera. Es un Estado dentro del Estado. Estaría totalmente de acuerdo con la nacionalización. En cuanto a la Falconbridge, existe un problema que se podría presentar, y son los mercados exteriores. No olvidemos el ejemplo de Chile con el cobre, en los últimos años. (Eso es diferente, ya que los compradores de EU fueron los que bloquearon las compras...): "En el momento en que se pueda estar seguro de que se puede llevar el níquel dominicano en condiciones favorables a los mercados, sin que una nacionalización les afecte, sí estaría de acuerdo con la nacionalización de la Falconbridge, ya que considero el subsuelo de un país tiene que favorecer única y exclusivamente a ese país."

TRINIDAD

The legacy of the "February Revolution" continues to surface in Trinidad. During the last two years a political group, the National Union of Freedom Fighters (NUFF), have been accused of bank robberies, armed hold ups, shooting of policemen and other criminal activities. Early in September Mr. Eustace Bernard, Commissioner of Police, declared in a Press Conference that "the police are searching for guerrillas purely as criminals and not as members of any political party or group". Most of the acknowledged leaders of NUFF have been either killed or arrested. Sporadic activities by NUFF still continue but the group seems to have weakened.

The following manifesto was issued by NUFF last February when assuming responsibility for the robbery of TT \$128,000 at the Barclays Bank:

"The foreign investor through his local agents, the Williams Government and Police Force and local big business, is presently bringing off endless rope against the people.

We have only to notice the skyrocketing cost of living, widespread unemployment, increasing acts of violence by the police (especially the most scrunting elements) and the continued exploitation of our labour, to realise this.

Our society continues to remain organised to serve the interests of the privileged few rather than to bring benefits to the majority of our people. The foreign investor is the big man in this set-up and is present in the form of the oil companies e.g. AMOCO Texaco, the banks (Barclays, Nova Scotia), big industry (Neal and Massy, Dunlop), the insurance firms (American Life) and in all major areas of distribution.

His aim is, and has always been, to rob and exploit, and he has been at this for centuries.

The continuous resistance of this foreign oppression which our people has always waged from the days of chattel slavery has however forced this bandit to modify his methods somewhat. It was the workers struggle led by Butler in the 1937-39 period which wrung from the "Man" whatever minor concessions (e.g. 1962 Independence) granted us at present.

The "Man" has always been careful, however, to retain control over the most important aspect of our lives, production. Realising that direct exploitation could endanger his position of dominance, the "Man" has created a special class of local exploiters consisting of government officials and big local capitalists whose task is to manage the political, social and cultural methods of exploitation which have replaced direct exploitation.

The rope arm of this whole group of oppressors is the police force. Our attempts to effect the changes denied us in the years following 1962, in 1970 by largely peaceful means, were met with ruthless suppression, injury and death.

Since then the state police machinery has been expanded and aspecialised anti-people force (the SSS) developed.

Its brutality has been perfected and openly tested as evidenced by the James Brown incident in February 1972; the Pele incident in September, 1972; and more lately the western style execution of a scrunting citizen at St. Ann's in January, 1973.

Williams has come out in Parliament and openly supported the actions of his ropemen so we can expect these acts to continue and increase in future. Our actions today seek to direct our peoples struggle against foreign domination to new heights and to lead it to the final and total overflow of the foreigner and his local stooges.

We anticipate endless dreadness for the people if things continue as they are and we understand that there can be no solutions to any of our problems while the important areas of our lives are controlled from abroad.

We also understand that the only way to stand up against and defeat the violence of the oppressing minority is greater violence on the part of the people. The "Man" and his local agents will brand our actions banditry and us bandits because we have attacked him and relieved him of some of the wealth that rightfully belongs to the people.

In the hands of the people it will be used to strengthen and spread armed resistance to achieve total liberation from foreign exploitation. Our roots lie deep among the most oppressed groups of our people (workers, unemployed farmers, students, housewives) and nothing the "Man" does will prevent his final overthrow.

We have learnt well from our 1970 experiences. The selflessness and dedication of our fighters point to the existence of a new type of individual who is prepared as brother Hillary Valentien and brother Joel De Masia were, to die in order to achieve true liberation.

We call on all popular progressive organisations in our society to unite so that we can rally the broadest possible forces in order to intensify the people's armed resistance. There can be no other strategy! Our armed resistance is to support and strengthen all present areas of struggle by the people.

The struggle of the workers in general against the exploitation of the foreigner, and particularly the struggle of the workers in the oil industry against the threatened CIA destruction of their union. The struggle of the farmers throughout the country and particularly of those in the sugar belt against Tate and Lyle Williams' oppression; the struggle of the unemployed and underemployed against the all-out effort of the "Man" to deprive them of the right to live; the struggle of the housewives and children against daily hardships.

Further we support all struggles of oppressed peoples throughout the world, and particularly those being waged by our Caribbean brothers and sisters. True Caribbean unity is a necessity and will only be achieved through the collective armed resistance of the people in the region, against the divide and rule strategy of the foreign exploiter.

We are one people. The enemy now appears big and strong and the armed resistance of the people small and weak, but by taking advantage of the enemy's money weaknesses, the armed resistance of the people will expand and grow strong.

Final victory will belong to the people.

"NATIONAL UNITED FREEDOM FIGHTERS"
responsible for Barclays bank "hold up".

Thursday 22nd February 1973. "

Last September in a typed, undated communication directed to a Trinidad newspaper, Express, NUFF stated clearly its aims:

"Democracy does not exist in Trinago, the electoral procedure will be null and void for all opposing parties. But it is not on this ground alone that we conduct armed political struggle.

History has proven that capitalism, and its international forces, imperialism, through the force of a people under arms, can be rendered impotent. This is our central task.

Our interest is not only a change of government but, more so, a drastic change in the economic system under which we buckle. That we choose violence as a vehicle through which political activity must take place, and political power realised, is to us a scientific and legitimate programme."

Mr. Karl Hudson-Phillips resigned as Attorney-General on his return from the conference "World Peace through Law" in the Ivory Coast after Prime Minister Dr. Eric Williams refused to grant him an audience. Mr. Hudson-Phillips in his letter of resignation commented... "While I can take a hint I am very disappointed that you were unable to see me. I came in peace. While I was away from Trinidad and Tobago I learnt with great deal of surprise and pain the strictures and criticisms you thought it necessary to direct against me.

I have no doubt that you did so after being advised and after some consideration on your part. I wish to express my deepest regret that the efforts which I have been making on behalf of the party and indeed on your behalf have been so terribly misunderstood and misconstrued.

What has been seen as an attempt to challenge was intended in fact, to boast and bolster you. Sinister motives have been attributed to honest and genuine, you may think misguided, attempts to reactivate the party and to refurbish your image."

In the same letter Mr. Hudson-Phillips withdrew his nomination for the post of chairman of the People's National Movement because "it will not do the party any good at all at this stage and be faced with the prospect of a chairman in whom the political leader has no confidence".

Dr. Eric Williams announced at the Fifteenth Annual Convention of the People's National Movement (PNM) on September 28 his intention of neither accepting the nomination for the party leadership nor nominating or endorsing a successor for the post.

In a two-hour address Dr. Williams mentioned as reasons for his departure of the political scenario his disillusionment with the failure of Caribbean integration, political life and attitudes in Trinidad-Tobago and the failure of the PNM to achieve its major objectives, often because of the non-cooperation of parliamentary colleagues to comply with party policy.

Reactions to Dr. Williams' resignation were varied. Mr. A.N.R. Robinson of the Democratic Action Congress termed it as a "palace intrigue". Catholic Archbishop Rev. Anthony Pantin referred to it as "inevitable" and observed that "he is certainly a man who has worked hard, and we have to be grateful to him for this". Mr. Vernon Jamadar, leader of a faction of the Democratic Labour Party remarked that "I would rather wait until after the Fifteenth Annual Convention of the PNM" to make any comments. Mr. Lloyd Best, secretary general of the Tapia Movement, declared

"Whatever the meaning of Dr. Williams' testament of despair, it amounts to a defeat for our struggling young nation because of the golden promise of the old national movement has ended in futility. Having painted himself into a corner, Dr. Williams will now exist from the stage of history as the ultimate mimic man, impotent, unable to rescue either his dignity or ours."

The manner of the exit is also incredibly irresponsible not only because it heightens anxieties about a military resolution of the crisis but even more fundamentally, because his interpretation of the party, the movement, the nation and indeed, to the Caribbean people as a whole.

It is of course possible that his merciless insistence on our traditional weaknesses is a desperate conspiracy to reinforce our dependence on messianic deliverance, a strategem to win sympathy and secure a new mandate."

NEWS IN BRIEF

HAITI

Mr. Aurélien Jeanty succeeded Mr. Fortuné Fournier as Minister of Justice. Mr. Fournier was appointed early this month chief judge of the Supreme Court.

JAMAICA

The Sugar Industry Authority imposed on October 1 an embargo on all sugar to be exported because of a possible domestic shortage of D-grade sugar.

Prime Minister Michael Manley declared a "national crisis" after tropical storm Gilda hit Jamaica causing J \$3.8 million in flood damages and leaving 1,100 persons homeless.

PUERTO RICO

El 15 de este mes el Consejo General de Estudiantes del Recinto de Río Piedras de la Universidad de Puerto Rico (UPR) decretó una huelga indefinida hasta que el Consejo Superior de Enseñanza satisfaga sus demandas de participación del estudiantado en procesos de selección del Presidente, Rectores, Decanos y directores de departamentos, la aprobación de una nueva Ley Universitaria, un nuevo reglamento estudiantil y que